



Appl. No. 10/711643

DPW

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Serial Number: 10/711643
Application filed: September 29, 2004
Applicant: Wu, Hengning
Application Title: Personal transportation system
Examiner/GAU: Yonel Beaulieu /3661

Mailed: January 29, 2007
At: Reston, VA

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the **Office Action** mailed on **November 3, 2006**, the applicant has provided a detailed explanation to the remarks of the examiner. In addition, the applicant has amended two claims.

The applicant has amended the **Claims 1 and 8**. The total number of claims remains the same. In **Claims 1 and 8**, the phrase “a plurality of wheels engaged on said side rails for supporting **and moving** the vehicle” is changed to “a plurality of wheels engaged on said side rails for supporting the vehicle”. The original claims unintentionally narrowed the scope of the invention. As stated in **paragraph 31 of the Specification** and summarized in the last sentence, “When linear induction motors are used, they act as the driving and braking means along the central rail.” The vehicles in the present invention can be driven by **either** the wheels on the side rail **or** the linear induction motors along the central rail. When linear induction motors are used, the wheels on the side rail are only used to support the vehicle. Therefore, the claims are amended to represent the true scope of the invention.

In the Office Action, **Claims 1, 5, and 7-10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. **5,108,052** to Malewicki et al. (“**Malewicki**”). Automated transportation systems share some common elements, such as a fixed guideway network, computer control of the vehicle, and a